

READ MY LIPS

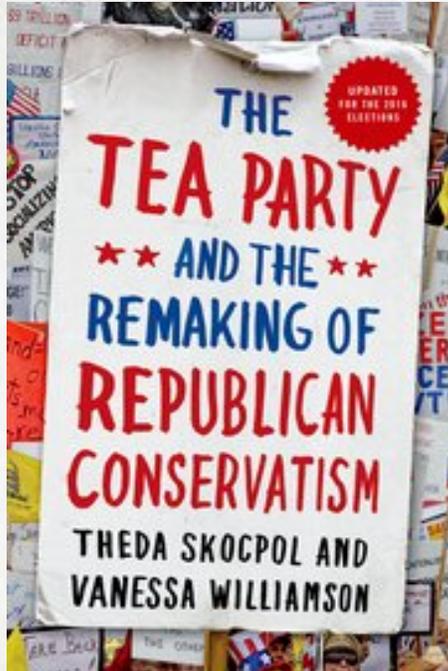


**WHY
AMERICANS
ARE PROUD
TO PAY TAXES**

VANESSA S. WILLIAMSON

**OK POLICY
2018 STATE BUDGET SUMMIT**

JANUARY 25TH 2018

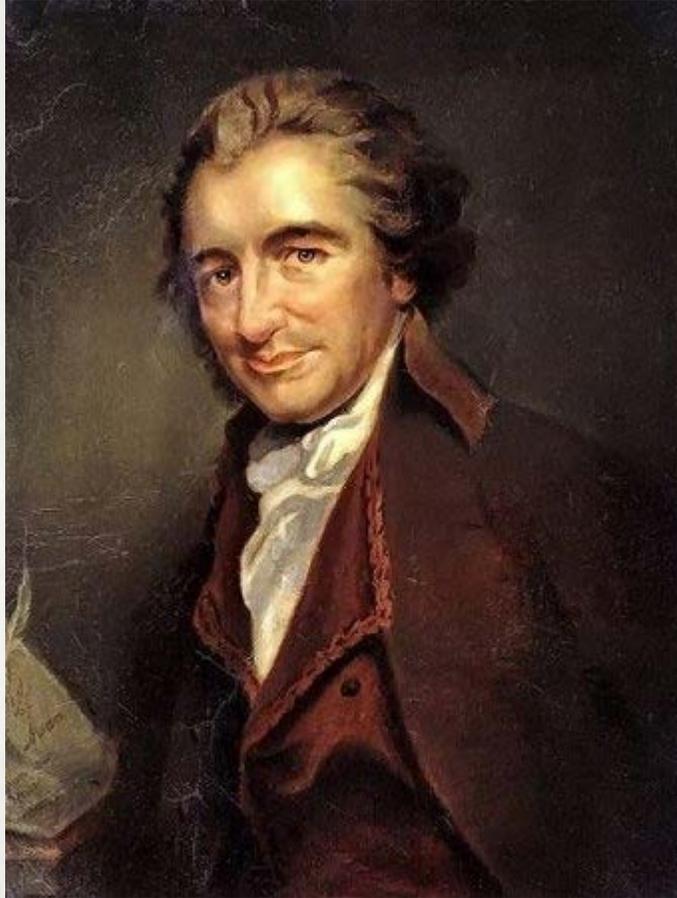


"Taxpayer March on Washington."

Salon



Seattle Times



All accumulation of personal property, beyond what a man's own hands produce, is derived to him by living in society, and he owes on every principle of justice, of gratitude, and of civilization a part of that accumulation back again to the society from whence it came.

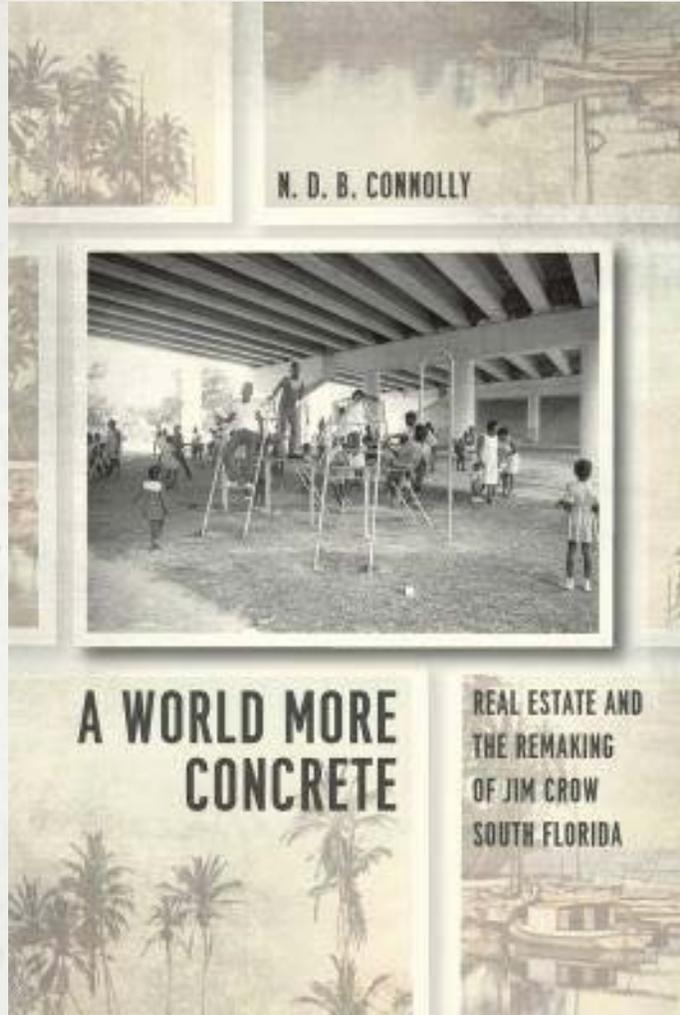
Thomas Paine, *Agrarian Justice*, 1797



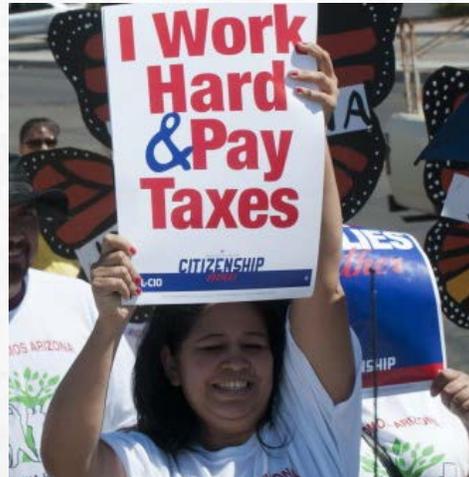
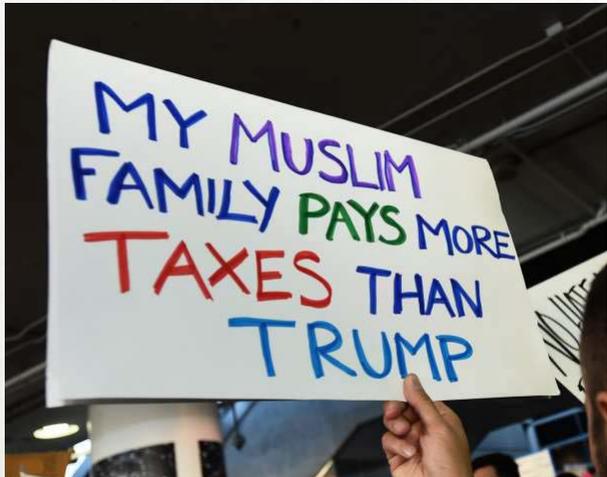
Woman now holds a vast amount of the property in the country and pays her full proportion of taxes....

On what principle then do you deny her representation?

National Women's Rights Convention, 1866



Crandon Park Beach
Miami



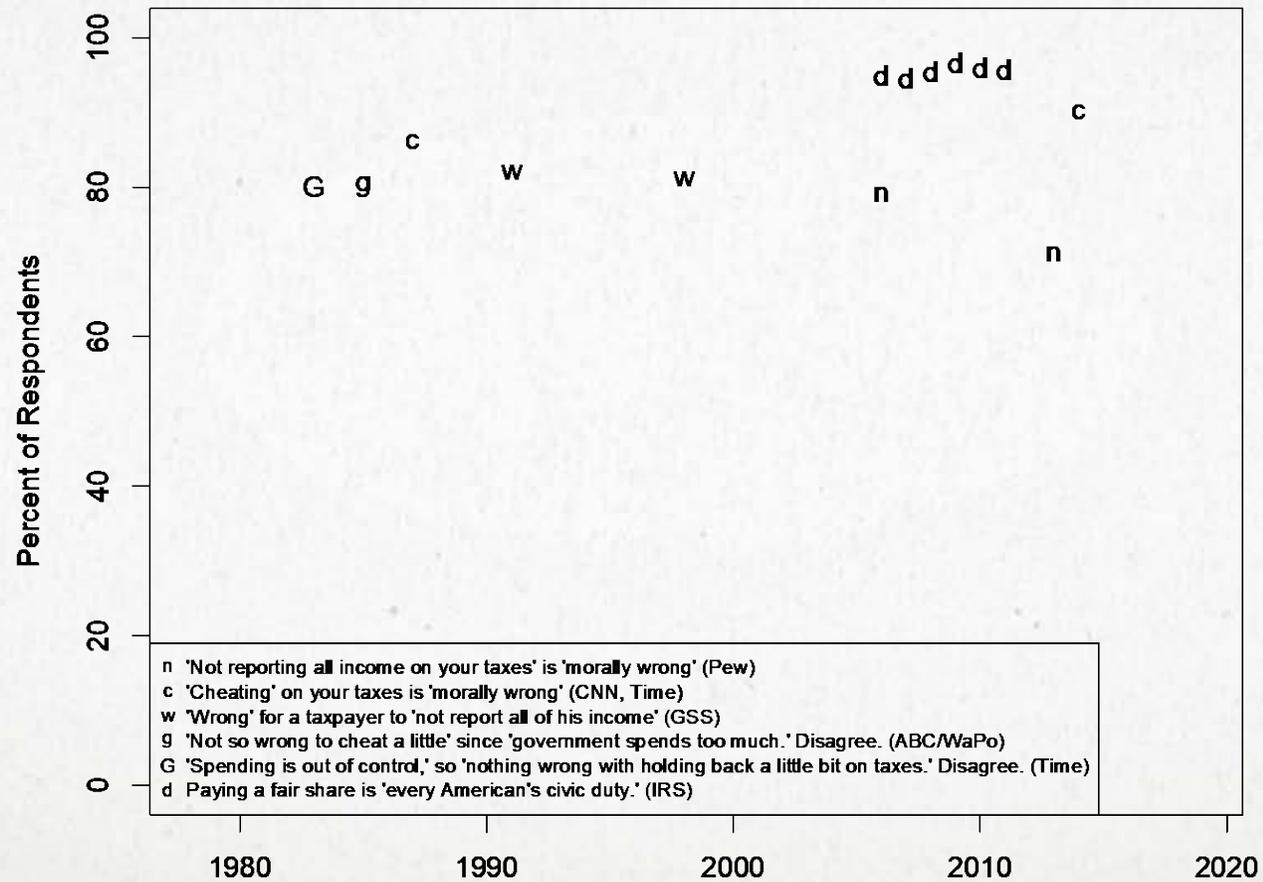
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NEAR-CONSENSUS ON THE DUTY OF TAXPAYING



RISING SUPPORT FOR STATE TAX INCREASES

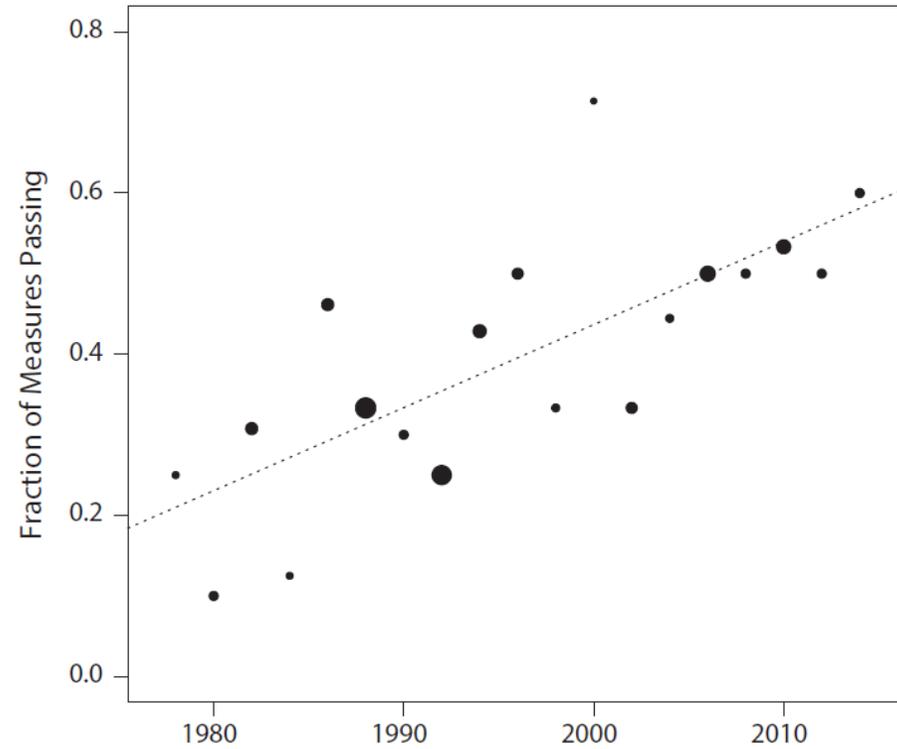
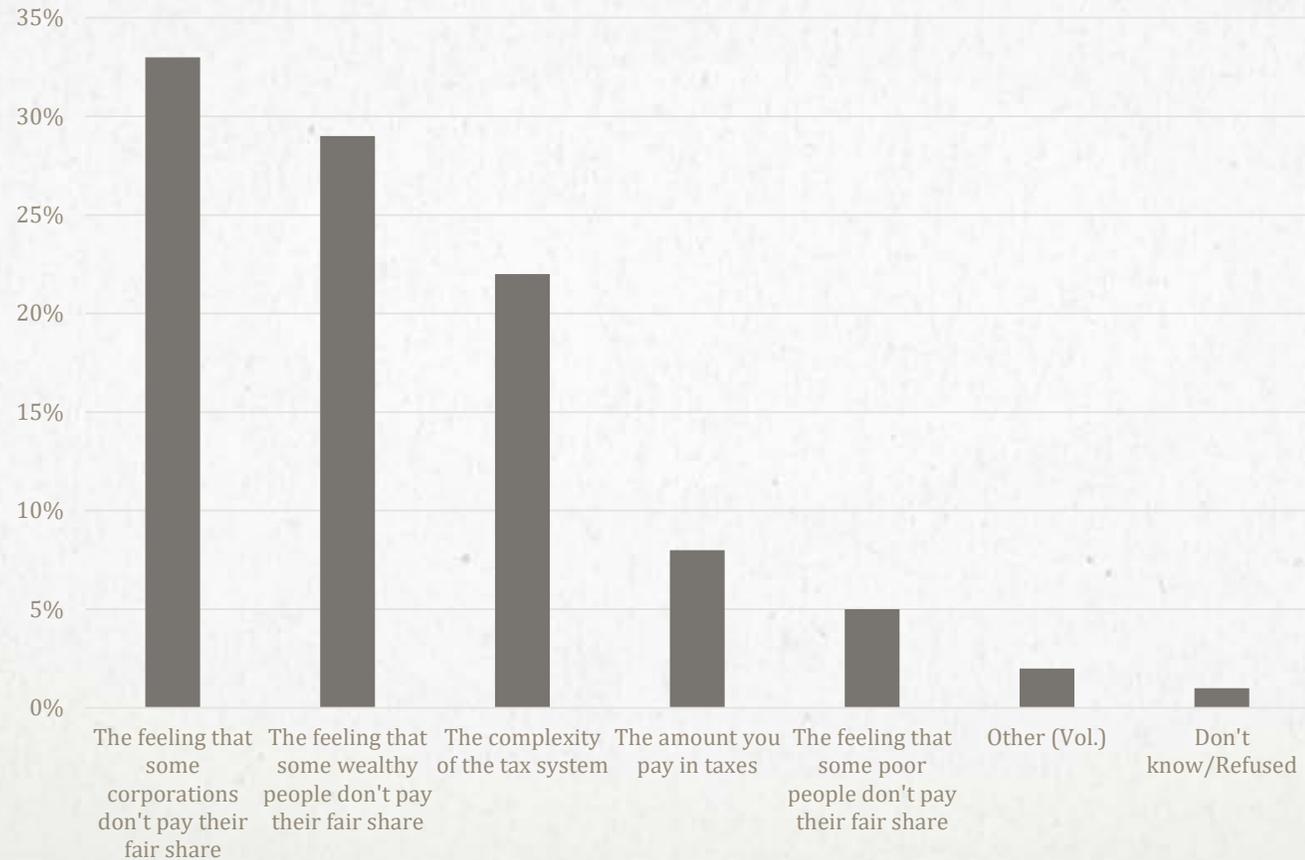


FIGURE 0.1. The Success of Tax-Increasing State Ballot Measures, 1977-2014

ANGER AT OTHERS NOT PAYING THEIR SHARE

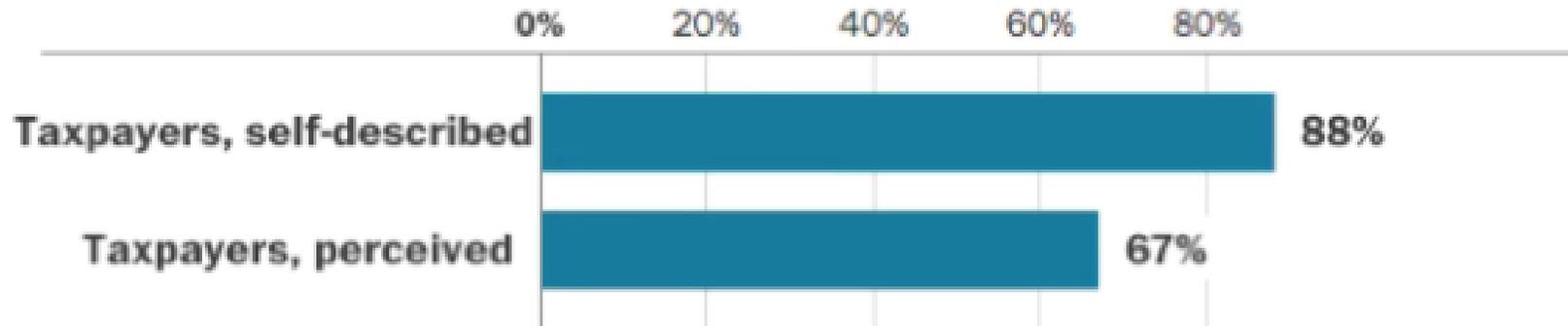
...Which bothers you the most about taxes?



THE TAXPAYER GAP

"The Taxpayer Gap"

Most people say they are taxpayers, but think that fewer Americans are



Source: 2014 national survey of U.S. adults

THE MONKEY CAGE

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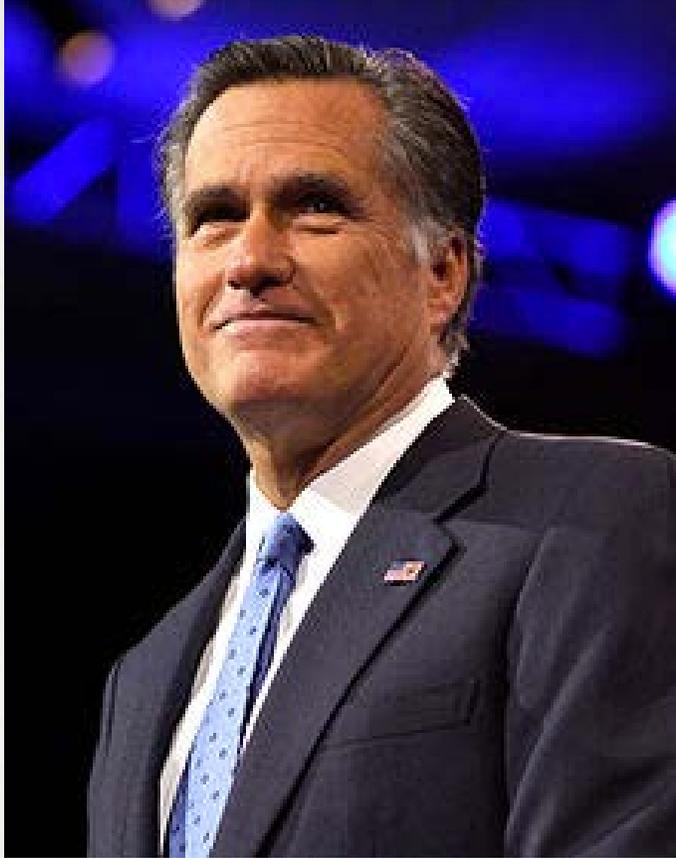


I'LL
REGISTER MY
GUNS WHEN
ILLEGALS
REGISTER TO
PAY TAXES.

* A FOOTNOTE ABOUT TAXPAYING BY UNDOCUMENTED PEOPLE

- Undocumented people pay the same **sales tax** as everyone else at the store, and the same **gas tax** at the gas station. Undocumented people pay the same **property taxes** as any other property owner.
 - **6 million** undocumented people file federal income taxes every year, using special numbers called “ITINs.”
 - Undocumented people also pay \$15 billion in Social Security **payroll taxes**, though they do not qualify for Social Security. Without these payments, Social Security would have entered into a state of persistent revenue shortfall starting in 2009, according to the chief actuary of the Social Security Administration.
-





There are 47 percent who are... dependent on government, who believe that they are victims, who believe that government has a responsibility to care for them, who believe they are entitled to health care, to food, to housing, you name it... These are people who pay no income tax.

Mitt Romney, 2012 presidential campaign.



“There’s a woman in Chicago... she has 80 names, 30 addresses, 12 Social Security cards and is collecting benefits...

Her tax-free income alone is over \$150,000.”

Ronald Reagan, 1980 presidential campaign.



“Redemption governments, often describing themselves as the “**rule of the taxpayer,**” frankly constituted themselves champions of the property owner against the propertyless and allegedly untaxed masses.”

Historian C. Vann Woodward

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THANK YOU

WHAT ARE YOU GLAD/UPSET TAX DOLLARS PAY FOR?

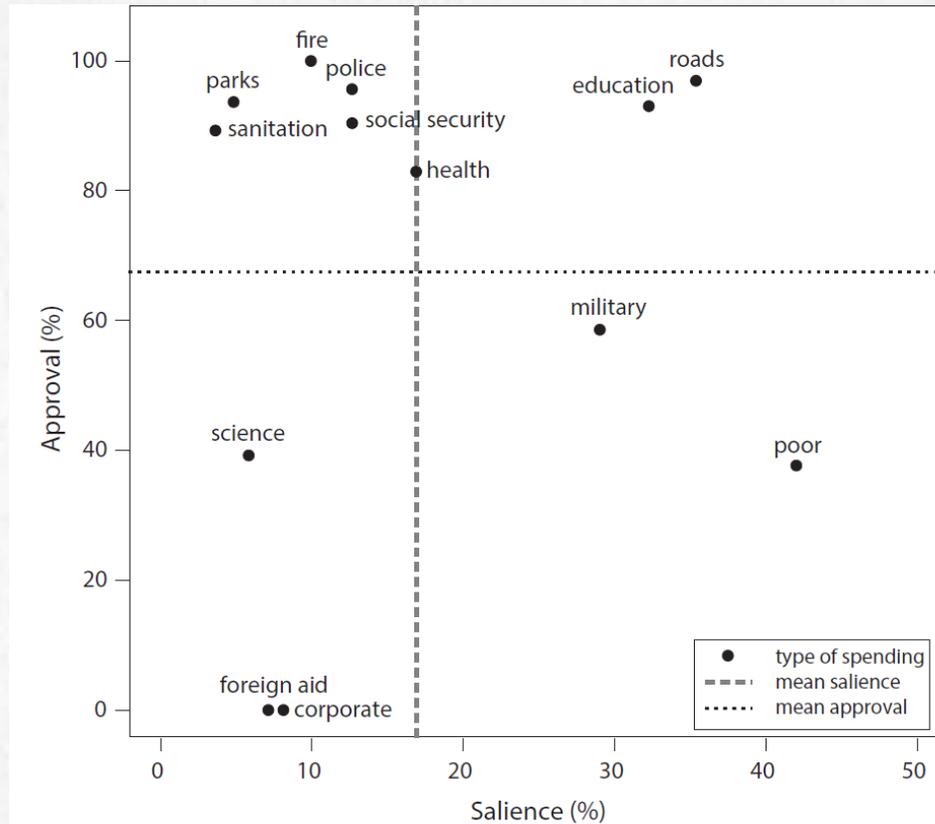


FIGURE 3.1. Approval and Salience of Major Public Investments

Note: Salience = % of respondents mentioning item

Approval = % of comments that were positive